

ered either of late Pleistocene or early modern times. From one of these banks in the bend of the river, about 500 yards from Agate, the following terrestrial mollusca were collected:

*Hawāiia minuscula* (Binney)    *Vallonia costata* (Muell.)  
*Vertigo ovata* Say                      *Succinea grosvenorii* Lea  
                                                 *Succinea oregonensis* Lea

Species of *Physa*, *Lymnaea*, *Helisoma*, *Gyraulus*, and *Sphaerüidae* were also dug from the bank, which contained also the jaw of a young *Bison* about fifty feet from the top of the exposure.

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## AN OVERLOOKED DESCRIPTION OF A NORTH AMERICAN GASTROPOD

By GORDON K. MacMILLAN

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Joseph True described a new gastropod, which, as far as I can ascertain, has not been mentioned in any of the leading works on North American conchology or in any of the monographs on *Helix*. This overlooked shell appeared in the Proceedings of the Essex Institute, vol. 2, 1857, p. 193, as "*Helix minima*, True, sp. nov.?" and was described as follows:

An exceeding small species—shell, minute, rounded-conical, smooth apex obtuse, epidermis of a uniform reddish horn color; whorls four, rounded above, and below, with a well defined suture. Aperture rounded, lip simple and thin, umbilicus broad and deep. Diameter about one-twentieth of an inch.

*Helix minima* was collected at Salem, Mass., and was "found under loose stones, wood, and decayed leaves, within half a mile of Great Swamp-meadow, which is situated in the limits of Salem." This species was associated with (I modernize the nomenclature): *Mesodon albolabris* (Say), *Anguispira alternata* (Say), *Strobilops labyrinthica* (Say), *Hawāiia minuscula* (A. Binney), *Haplotrema concavum* (Say), *Discus cronkhitei anthonyi* (Pils.), *Zonitoides arboreus* (Say), *Retinella electrina* (Gould), *R. indentata* (Say), *Helicodiscus parallelus* (Say), *Euconulus chersinus* (Say), and *Vallonia pulchella* (Muell.).

From the above description I am inclined to call *Helix minima* a synonym of *Punctum minutissimum* (Lea). The broad and deep umbilicus places it close to *Striatura milium* (Morse) and *S. ferrea* (Morse), but these are much lighter in color than *Helix minima*, which is closest in that character to *P. minutissimum*.

This is not *Helix minima* of E. F. Schlotheim, Mineralogisches Taschenbuch, 1818, 340, nor *Helix (Hyalina) minima* of J. C. Cox, Monograph of Australian Landshells, in 1868, 10. Louis Pfeiffer mentions another *Helix minima* in his Monographia Heliceorum Viventium, vol. 7, 1876, p. 112, but this species was described as *Macrochlamys minima* by H. Adams in the Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London in 1867 on page 303.

W. G. Binney in the Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, vol. 5, 1863, in the "Bibliography of North American Conchology previous to the year 1860," on page 253, lists Joseph True's article "Shells Gathered about Salem, Mass., with particular localities designated, and remarks on the species," but does not give the complete list of shells. Binney's list ends with *Crepidula fornicata*, which in True's list is at bottom of page 192 in the Proceedings Essex Institute, at the end of signature 24 of volume 2. Signature 25 begins on page 193, the part which contains the description of *Helix minima*, which part apparently Binney did not see, otherwise he would have mentioned this species in his Manual of American Land Shells and other works.

From the above evidence *Helix minima* True can be regarded as a synonym of *Punctum minutissimum* (Lea).

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## A MOLLUSCAN MASS GRAVE

By MORRIS K. JACOBSON

Our larger eastern American land molluscs, with some exceptions, are notoriously solitary in habits. Hence reports of any large congregations of a pulmonate so persistently solitary as *Triodopsis tridentata* (Say) might prove of some interest, especially if such congregations take place in so unfavorable a location as the limestone-free and granitic region about Peekskill, New York.